

Litigation Section *News*

Litigation Section of the State Bar of California

September 2008

Members of the Litigation Section,

This September 2008 edition of Litigation Section News features information on the events, activities, publications, and upcoming programs of your Litigation Section. Also, at the end of Litigation Section News, you can find information on the outstanding subcommittees of the Litigation Section. If you so choose, you can easily get involved in a subcommittee and join with your colleagues throughout California in the work of the Litigation Section.

Upcoming Events and Live Programs

Litigation Section Reception at State Bar Annual Meeting in Monterey

*Saturday, September 27, 2008, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Stevenson Terrace, Monterey Conference Center
(adjacent to Portola Plaza hotel)*

The Litigation Section will again be sponsoring a wide variety of MCLE programs at this year's 81st Annual Meeting of the State Bar of California in Monterey. Eleven new and informative programs sponsored by the Section are offered this year. To commemorate our participation, we are holding a hosted reception at the Annual Meeting.

All Litigation Section members, along with all Annual Meeting registrants and guests, are invited to join us for a cocktail reception on Saturday, September 27, 2008, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the Stevenson Terrace at Monterey Conference Center, to meet and network with friends and colleagues. We will be serving hors d'oeuvres and wine, so please join us. We want to take this opportunity to thank you for being a member of the Litigation Section and for your generous support of the great work done by our Section this year.

Bench/Bar Brown Bag luncheons are sponsored by the Litigation Section, and offer opportunities for interested members of the bar to meet California judges in an informal, small group setting. The most recent Bench/Bar lunch, with The Honorable Kenneth K. So, Presiding Judge of San Diego County Superior Court, was held in San Diego on September 3, 2008. Watch your e-mail box for information on upcoming Bench/Bar luncheons.

2008 Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame Award Dinner

honoring Edith R. Matthai, Esq.

Saturday, November 15, 2008, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Beverly Hills Hotel, Sunset Room

2008 marks the 15th year in which the Litigation Section has inducted outstanding California trial attorneys into the Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame at a special award dinner. This coveted honor is presented to trial attorneys who have excelled in the courtroom and whose careers exemplify the highest of values and professional achievement.

This year's honoree, Edith R. Matthai, will be inducted into the Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 15, 2008, in the Sunset Room at the Beverly Hills Hotel. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m., and the dinner and award presentation will be from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The special guest speaker will be Trial Lawyer Hall of Fame member Raoul Kennedy. Please join us. For more information, call (415) 538-2546. To order tickets, look for the forthcoming program materials in your mail or e-mail. Registration will also be available soon via the Litigation Section website at www.calbar.ca.gov/litigation.

Best of the Best Trial Practices

Saturday, November 15, 2008, 8:30 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Loyola Law School (Donovan Hall), Los Angeles

The Section will hold a "Best of the Best Trial Practices" program on Saturday, November 15, in Donovan Hall at Loyola Law School in Los Angeles. Experienced judges and trial attorneys will lead panel discussions that will help you to sharpen your trial skills. This full-day program, with 6.25 hours of MCLE credit, is only \$240. For more information, call (415) 538-2546. Watch for the brochure in your mail or e-mail. Registration will also be available soon via the Litigation Section website.

Publications

The Litigation Section offers three outstanding publications, free of charge to all members of the Litigation Section.

California Litigation magazine, published three times each year, presents in-depth articles and commentary by prominent members of the California legal community. The most recent issue, “The Great Outdoors”, focused on conservation and land-use issues, and was sent to all Section members in August.

California Litigation Review is an annual publication that provides an insightful overview of legislation and appellate decisions of the previous year that are of interest to California litigators. This year’s issue has been sent to all Section members, and each article is available to members on-line at the Litigation Section website, www.calbar.ca.gov/litigation.

Litigation Update is a monthly electronic newsletter that is e-mailed to all Litigation Section members. It provides timely information on recent appellate decisions and other relevant issues.

Subcommittees

The Litigation Section’s subcommittees carry out the work of the Section and provide many valuable services to our members and the legal community.

If you would like to be a part of any of these subcommittees, please contact the Litigation Section’s Administrator, Tom Pye, at Thomas.Pye@calbar.ca.gov, and please indicate which subcommittee interests you.

The Litigation Section’s current subcommittees are:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Subcommittee — Reviews legislation and proposed rule changes regarding all forms of ADR.

Best Practices Program Subcommittee — Organizes the Section’s Best Practices Programs.

Education Program Subcommittee — Organizes programs to be presented at the State Bar of California Annual Meeting and the Section Education Institute.

Insurance Staff Counsel Subcommittee — Works on issues of importance to California litigators who work in the insurance industry and/or as in-house counsel.

Jury Instruction Subcommittee — Provides comments on Judicial Council’s Civil Jury Instructions (“CACI”).

A Week in Legal London Subcommittee — Organizes the Week in Legal London and Oxford University Summer Program.

Law Suits Program Subcommittee — Organizes program that collects donated used suits for men and women transitioning to self-sufficiency.

Outreach Subcommittee — Organizes Bench-Bar Programs and other events to assist members and works to diversify and increase Litigation Section membership.

Rules and Legislation Subcommittee — Reviews and recommends positions to be taken on behalf of the Section regarding rules and legislation that affect litigation.

Technology Subcommittee — Works on technology issues of importance to California litigators, including the advancement of electronic filing in California state courts.

We hope that you enjoy Litigation Section News and the many benefits of Litigation Section membership.

Please pass this newsletter on to any colleagues who may be interested in joining the Litigation Section, and let them know that they can join the Litigation Section, and take advantage of all of these great benefits, by visiting the Litigation Section website at www.calbar.ca.gov/litigation and clicking on the “Join” link.

Special Offer to Litigation Section Members

FINZ’S ADVANCE TAPES on California Civil Procedure, Discovery, and Evidence

Half-year Subscription (three issues),
available as audio CD or audio
tape, for only \$15. You also receive
unlimited access to the website.
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